AF 09-0688

FILED 04/19/2017

**April 16, 2017** 

£d Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: AF 09-0688

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Sup. Ct. Justices 215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg. Helena, MT 69620

**Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,** 

I am writing today to show my support for the adoption of rule 8.4. As a retired teacher, I know that the suicide rate of LGBTQ students is high, and that is because of the bigotry our society often imposes on them. This bigotry, unfortunately, often comes from family and church, but is not limited to those.

Rule 8.4 will make discrimination based up on one's race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, or socioeconomic status professional misconduct.

In addition, businesses look into things like this when they consider moving to Montana. Let's not discourage them from considering The Last Best Place.

Please support rule 8.4.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kern

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Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA